

The monthly A*C*E

Serving the Free Radio community since 1982

ANARC member since 1983

February 2004

THE SCREAM

OF....



THE MOSQUITO
(Aedes vexans)

from the desk of the Managing Editor

Ye Olde jta: ACEHdq@localnet.com
or: (585) 365-8870 (not collect)

Geez, we just finished off one year and this one is speeding by already. Maybe the age factor? Not much Club news or notes to bother you with, so I'll just remind you to check the date-code that follows your name on the mailing label. That four-digit date-code is your expiration date; the first two digits are the year and the second two digits are the month that you expire. Thus, if your date-code reads 0402, you'll find a little reminder to renew tucked in with your copy of The monthly ACE. While we'll usually extend an extra month (on the belief that your check may cross in the mail), the Club cannot carry you for long, so it behooves you to get your renewal in post-haste - before Mr. Head puts you on his "hoove" list!

And maybe I'll remind you that none of the columns can function (to bring you info) if you don't help out by sending some of that info to the column editor or columnist. We aren't omniscient, and we're bound to miss things that are important enough to be included in your newsletter. If you're going to send a newspaper clipping, please be sure to note the source of the clipping and the date of publication. We do like to give credit where credit is due. It really isn't enough to just send your membership check annually; without your active participation (by sending reports) any editor's job is an exercise in frustration. So turn on those radios, lube up those typewriters, and chip in!

Onward..!

FRN THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

"Pirate Radio Invades the World Wide Web!"



- ✓ Audio Clips
- ✓ Photos
- ✓ QSLs
- ✓ The ACE
- ✓ Chat
- ✓ News
- ✓ The Grapevine
- ✓ Over 1000 Links

DIALOGS February, 2004

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(Next deadline for submissions: February 18th, 2004)

LATE LOGS

Ragnar Radio

- 11/21/03, 0106, 6925A. (ZR-AZ Good)

Shadow Radio

- 12/07/03, 0044, 6950U. (ZR-AZ Fair)

WMFQ

- 12/02/03, 0139, 6925A. (ZR-AZ Fair)

FROM ACROSS THE POND

Alfa Lima International (radio@alfalima.net)

- 12/24/03, 0040-0045, 6304A - Alfred playing mx. (SC-VA Poor)
- 12/31/03, 0612, 6280A - IDs and P.O. Box number. (WS-TN Poor)

Enjoy Radio (enjoyradio@hotmail.com)

- 12/16/03, 0620-0645+, 6274A - Pretty much non-stop techno/dance music with occasional IDs by M ancr. (JA-NY Good)

Free Radio Service Holland (frs.Holland@hccnet.nl)

- 01/04/04, 0607-0639, 6210A - mx, IDs as "FRS Holland". (WS-TN Poor)

Radio Spaceman (kompdeband@hotmail.com)

- 12/21/03, 0033-0104, 6265A - mx - "The Joker", "Rocket In My Pocket", "I Am A Rock", "Sex & Drugs & Rock'n'Roll." OM anncr w/regular IDs. (RC-MA Fair)
- 01/01/04, 0039-0043, 6350A - mx and hello to the listeners. (SC-VA Poor)

Radio Three Network (None)

- 12/25/03, 0611-0703, 6310A - mx, IDs as "Radio Three Network" and "World's Best Music". Mention of movies in Italian. (WS-TN Poor) (If I remember correctly, this one's an unauthorized rebroadcast of an Italian FM station - they'd like to know who it is, too - Lee.)

NORTH/SOUTH AMERICAN LOGGINGS

Border Radio (FRN)

- 12/21/03, 0050-0106, 6925U - Mean Farmer "What to do when you have the flu". (WS-TN Good)
- 12/21/03, 0222-0228, 6955U - Mean Farmer. (WS-TN Good)

Captain Morgan (FRN)

- 12/23/03, 0030-0034, 6950A - mx - "All you Need is Drugs", "Yellow Snow". (SC-VA Fair)
- 01/07/04, 0114, 6924U - mx, Celebrity Jeopardy. (ZR-AZ Good)

Grasscutter Radio (FRN)

- 01/01/04, 2156-2240, 6925A – mx – Rock. OM anncr w/“This is Grasscutter Radio. Now, back to the music!” (RD-PA Fair)
- 01/01/04, 2304-2326, 6950A – mx – a Hendrix live recording. (SC-VA Good)
- 01/11/04, 2207-2217+, 6925U – a round robin QSO with other stations including Border Radio and Ragnar Radio. The main topic of conversation was that of making sure your transmitter was spot on frequency and what the phrase “zero beating” meant when performed against WWV’s signal. (GZ-OH 252)

KIPM (kipm_outerlimits@hotmail.com)

- 12/26/03, 2342-0017, 6925U – Legend. (WS-TN Good)(ZR-AZ Good)
- 12/27/03, 0201-0226+, 6975U – The Legend of Tiamat, Part One. (RE-CA Fair)
- 12/27/03, 0235-0323+, 6975U – The Legend of Tiamat, Part Two. (RE-CA Fair)
- 12/27/03, 0357-0441, 6975U – Nine Audio Signals from Space. (WS-TN Fair)
- 12/27/03, 0500-0553, 6950U – The Seeds from Space. (SC-VA Good)
- 12/27/03, 2350-0029+, 6975U – The Legend of Tiamat, Part One. (RE-CA Good)
- 12/28/03, 0043-0135+, 6975U – The Legend of Tiamat, Part Two. (RE-CA Fair)
- 12/28/03, 0158-0308, 6950U – Nine Audio Signals from Space – we are treated to a number of classic quotes from SF backed by music. Occasional jamming. (RE-CA Fair)(RD-PA Good)(WH-IL 154)(GZ-OH 232)
- 12/28/03, 0309-0411, 6950U – The Seeds from Space. The path of romance is rocky for Mister Maxwell. (WH-IL 154)(GZ-OH 243)
- 12/28/03, 0412-0440, 6950U – mx – Spacey, no voice. (WH-IL 154)(GZ-OH 353)
- 12/28/03, 0455, 6950U – The Legend of Tiamat, Part Two. (WH-IL 154)
- 12/28/03, 1228, 6925U – The Legend of Tiamat, Part One. (WH-IL 154)
- 12/28/03, 1415-1435+, 6950U – The Legend of Tiamat, Part Two. (RE-CA Good)
- 12/28/03, 1455-1538+, 6950U – The Seeds from Space. (RE-CA Fair)(WH-IL 154)
- 12/28/03, 1538-1554, 6950U – Mister Maxwell gives QSL information, doesn’t “know if I’ll be back again” and signs off. (RE-CA Good)(WH-IL 154)

Oxycontin Radio (Unknown)

- 01/04/04, *2239-2254*, 6925A – Sign on w/profanity, theme tune to “All in the Family”, Bozo loops and the song “I Want a New Drug”. (GZ-OH 444)

Radio Free Speech (Belfast)

- 12/21/0, 2332-2335, 6975A – discussed brand new studio. (WS-TN Good)
- 12/25/03, 2339, 6950A – an ad for Serious Putty. (WS-TN Good)
- 12/28/03, 2301+, 6975A – parody on Rushbo. (SC-VA Fair)
- 12/31/03, 2114-2235, 6975A – WBST relay. (SC-VA Good)

Radio Gong (Unknown)

- 12/28/03, 1215-1227, 6925U – a story about phone booths. (WH-IL 154)

Radio Xanax (Unknown)

- 12/20/03, 2209-2232, 6925A – mx – Doors, Frampton. “Everybody must get Stoned”. (WS-TN Good)

Ragnar Radio (ragnarradio@yahoo.com)

- 01/04/04, 0010-0102, 6950U – mx – “Your Dirty Love”. (WS-TN Good)(SC-VA Good)

Sunshine Radio (FRN)

- 01/10/03, 2236, 6925A – mx – Peter Frampton. Sunshine wishing us a “Happy New Year”. (AF Fair)

Sycko Radio (None)

- 12/21/03, 0313-0336, 6950U – IDs. (WS-TN Fair)
- 12/26/03, 0205, 6950U – mx – “Keep your Hands to Yourself”, “Buck Naked”. (ZR-AZ Good)

Take It Easy Radio (takeiteasyradio@yahoo.com)

- 12/21/03, 0630-0635, 6925U – mx – “White Christmas”. (WS-TN Poor)

- 12/25/03, 0150-0217, 6925U – mx – Kraft Music Hall w/Bing Crosby. (WH-IL 133)(SC-VA Good)
- 12/31/03, 0329-0412, 6925U – “One of these Nights”. (SC-VA Good)

The Purple Nucleus of Creation (Elkhorn)

- 12/28/03, 1135-1214, 6925U – mx – remixes of Oldfield’s “Let there be Light”. Possible KIPM relay. (WH-IL 154)

The Voice of Captain Ron Shortwave (captainron6955@hotmail.com)

- 01/05/04, 0108, 6950U – ID and Halloween Special. (WS-TN Fair)
- 01/14/04, *0200-0252*, 6925U – mx – Linkn Park, Rage Against the Machine, Offspring. (RS-OH 222)(WS-TN Fair)

The Voice of the Abnormal (Elkhorn)

- 12/28/03, 1035-1134, 6925U – mx – beer, dance and party related theme. Possible KIPM relay. (WH-IL 154)

Undercover Radio (ragnarradio@yahoo.com)

- 12/28/03, 1015-1030, 6925U – m – Laurie Anderson. Readings by the estimable Mister Burroughs. Possible KIPM relay. (WH-IL 154)

Voodoo Radio (vudu11@hotmail.com)

- 01/06/04, 017, 6950U – mx – famous songs w/amateur guitar solos mixed in. (ZR-AZ Fair)

WDDR (Elkhorn)

- 12/27/03, 2226-2245, 6975U – mx – “Gonna Die for the Government”. (SC-VA Good)
- 12/28/03, 0621-0705*, 6925U – a Warren Zevon tribute. (WS-TN Good)

WHYP (whyp6925@yahoo.com)

- 12/27/03, 0139, 6925A – mx – Johnny Cash. (ZR-AZ Poor)
- 12/27/03, 2331-0013, 6925A – “Who want to be a Pirate Operator?” (SC-VA Good)
- 12/31/03, *2225-0024*, 6925A – James hosts a program of Rock music and includes a good number of his parody songs. Captain Ganja makes a cameo appearance, we get the original WHYP aircheck and weather forecasts. Martin Peck phones in. technical problems with the start of the transmission. The infamous George Zeller is heard commenting about the virtues of a show being so bad! (GZ-OH 454)(RS-OH 333)(SC-VA Good)
- 01/03/04, *2231-2352*, 6925A – a probable live show (given an accurate timecheck) with a cameo appearance by Sanjay of Partial India Radio, Bozo and Uncle Schleckstein get airtime or a mention, James says that he’s back after a lot of holiday activities kept him away from the xmtr. (GZ-OH 454)
- 01/03/04, 2332-0015, 6925A – mx – Punk, Heavy Metal. JB talking about Winterfest. (WH-IL 154)(SC-VA Good)
- 01/08/04, 0048, 6925U – mx/data. (ZR-AZ Fair)
- 01/11/04, 1445-1527, 6925U – a mixed bag – SSTV picture of Scarfman is sent, clips of the infamous George Zeller, Bozo, Sal Ammoniac and Steve Anderson are heard. James isn’t happy with his transmitter and wonders whatever happened to Sycko Radio. (BF-PA)
- 01/14/04, 0030, 6925U – an SSTV image of Santa Bin Laden is transmitted! (WS-TN Good)

Uncle Schleckstein Worldwide (Unknown)

- 01/18/04, 0040, 6925U – an SSTV image of “Scary Christmas” is sent. (WS-TN Good)

WMPR (FRN)

- 12/20/03, 0037, 6955A – mx – Christmas. (ZR-AZ Good)
- 12/24/03, 2155-2220*, 6955A – mx – instrumental Christmas music. Frequent OM/YL IDs wishing the listeners Happy Holidays. (GZ-OH 353)
- 12/27/03, 2330+, 6925A – mx – Techno. (SC-VA Good)
- 12/30/03, 0055-0135, 6925A – mx – Techno. (SC-VA Good)(ZR-AZ Fair)

- 01/01/04, *0026-0110*, 6925A – mx – Techno. “Dance Party”. (RS-OH 222)(SC-VA Poor)

TENTATIVE/UNIDENTIFIED

Radio Satellite?

- 12/25/03, 0527, 6272A – mx – organ/barrel organ. Any ideas? (WS-TN Poor)

UNID

- 12/21/03, 0031, 6925U – mx – “Instant Karma”. (ZR-AZ Good)
- 12/22/03, 0000-0002, 6965U – mx – Piano. (WS-TN Poor)
- 12/26/03, 0055, 6925A – drums, chanting. (ZR-AZ Fair)
- 12/27/03, 0135, 6950A – mx – bits of various Pop songs. (ZR-AZ Fair)
- 01/03/04, 2315-2330*, 6955A – mx – “Time to Black Out”. (WS-TN Fair)
- 01/09/04, 0008, 6927A – mx – acoustic Blues. (Reminiscent of the old KMUD) (ZR-AZ Fair)
- 01/10/04, 0051, 6926A – mx – vocal jams. (Reminiscent of the old KMUD) (ZR-AZ Good)

QSL CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE

John Arthur, PO Box 1, Belfast, NY 14711 (JA-NY)
 Steve Cherry, 6683 Beach Road, Warrenton, VA 20187 (SC-VA)
 Ross Comeau, 16 Linwood Street, Andover, MA 01810 (RC-MA)
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 Rudy Elsen, P.O. Box 21012, Castro Valley, CA 94546-9012 (RE-CA)
 Al Fansome (AF)

Bill Finn, 2905 Tyson Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19149 (BF-PA)
 William Hassig, 102 North Russell Street, Mount Prospect, IL 60056-2443 (WH-IL)
 Zeke Russell, P.O. Box 34, Williams, AZ 86046 (ZR-AZ)
 Woody Smith, P.O. Box 52823, Knoxville, TN 37950 (WS-TN)
 Ronnie Stroup, 9226 Hiner Road, Wooster, OH 44691 (RS-OH)
 George Zeller, 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ-OH)

TEN (and TWENTY) YEARS AFTER...

Feb 1984: ACE was 24 pages with a WDX 1620 QSL on the cover. DiaLogs was 7 pages with 5 NAM MW, 3 NAM FM, 19 NAM SW, 1 Euro SW, 6 clandestines and about 20 unIDs from 29 reporters.

Feb 1994: ACE was 36 pages (!) with a promotional poster for Radio Free Insanity on the cover. DiaLogs was 15 pages (!!) with 3 NAM MW, 42 NAM SW, 2 Euros, and 40 unIDs from 30 reporters.

RAMBLINGS

Thanks to all of you that checked in this time around. No new contributors (Oh, what a surprise!) but a number of past contributors sent something for us. Good going, guys!

Alan Maxwell held another marathon broadcasting session this period. One commonly repeated theme in his stories was that of his failed relationships with female aliens. Sheesh – the boy should come talk to me – I learnt not to date outside my own species when I married my first wife!

Al Fansome has been forwarding some of the SSTV pictures that have been put out over the air lately by various stations. I get to make an appearance in one of them, even. I’ll have to talk to that boy.... What I’ve seen so far won’t transfer well to the black and white pages of the ACE, unfortunately, otherwise I’d put them in the column. I wonder if maybe the FRW might be able to provide a picture-based logging page for people?

Oh, and yes – one curious new development is that of Pirate Operators sending out SSTV pictures. Next logical step is to send out QSLs by the same means, I’d presume. Ask me if you need to know how to get these pictures – you’ll need a computer and a sound card for starters.

William Hassig did, kindly, provide some late logs but they were about three months old or more – Bill, they are appreciated but I didn’t put ‘em in because I’m not sure the readers would want ‘em quite that old? If you, dear reader, do want such info, drop me a line and I’ll make sure that such is included. (Normally I include data from the previous month or so if it’s submitted but don’t go back any further.)

George Zeller heard Harry Helms (until recently the publisher of ACE) on WLW (a local AM’er) talking about his new book “Inside the Shadow Government: National Emergencies and the Cult of Secrecy”. A lengthy discussion was undertaken concerning the potential misuse of Executive Orders by US Presidents. George has read this book and recommends it very highly.

Rudy Elser makes comment on some mysterious CW beacons he’s been hearing just below the 6950 area – what he’s hearing could well be part of the Pirate Beacon network that’s known to operate above and below that area. Rudy, do you have a computer? (He sends me reports via snail mail) If you do, you’ll find a discussion on the subject on the FRN web site in the ACE loggings forum. If you don’t have a computer – why not, dammit? If you don’t and won’t, tho’, let me know in your next report and maybe I can print some stuff off and mail it to you.

March 12-13 marks another (the 17th) Kulpville Winterfest. See www.swlfest.com for details. I plan on going, so does George Zeller and, I suspect, Krusty will be there too. Looks like it should be a good time for all concerned. I plan on drinking unrealistically large quantities of alcohol and harassing the Pirates that’ll be attending.

Next month I may put in a beginner’s guide for some of the membership in response to email received – or perhaps I’ll get Krusty to help, seeing as he’s supposed to be the head of all this....

STATISTICS

Nope, no stats – maybe next month – busy, busy and the mystery beacons have distracted me as well.

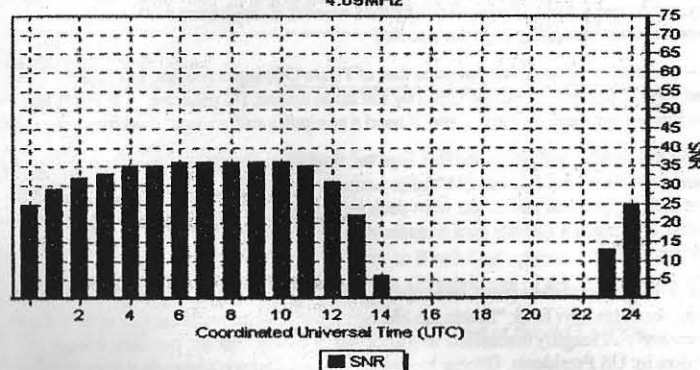
PROPAGATION

This month I’ve run up some tables for the frequencies of 4.09, 6.90 and 8.00 MHz along a path between the East Coast and Arizona. Why? Because those are frequencies that these mystery Pirate Beacons operate on and Arizona is one of the known locales for them.

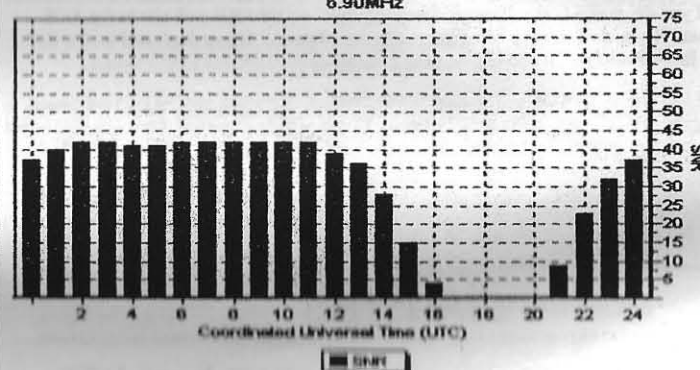
Try 8000.5, for an ‘S’ beacon during daylight only, 4095-4096 is said to have a mess of beacons in there that send dits or long dashes, Rudy’s been hearing stuff on 6940U, 6870 might have something on it, etc. See what’s there, might be interesting.

And, of course, do let me know what you hear?

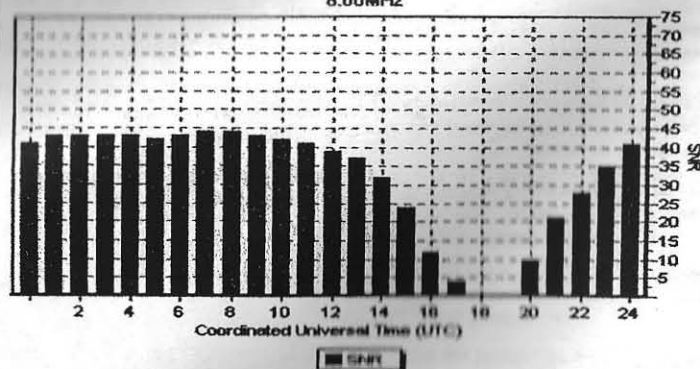
Feb. 2004 SSN: 54 Philadelphia, PA to Flagstaff, AZ
4.09MHz



Feb. 2004 SSN: 54 Philadelphia, PA to Flagstaff, AZ
6.90MHz



Feb. 2004 SSN: 54 Philadelphia, PA to Flagstaff, AZ
8.00MHz



Veried Response

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February 2004

January... What can I say? It sucked! It was cold and windy and snowy – made me wish I was still out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean somewhere. However, by the time you read this it'll be February and, with a little luck, the worst will be behind us. Me? I got my R75 back and am happy as a clam in salt water. No flu; not even a cold, knock wood! You watch; it'll get me when I least expect it. Always does...

under the door
the QSL report

Chris Lobdell scored big with a full data logo card and two picture postcards from Radio Casanovas 6265 and a nice letter from the station Op Ludwig Caarels who said 500 watts and did it all in three weeks.

Woody Smith chimes in with a full data "safety tips" card from KPSSA in about four months.

TO: John T. Arthur

DATE: June 21/72

TIME: 0209-0243

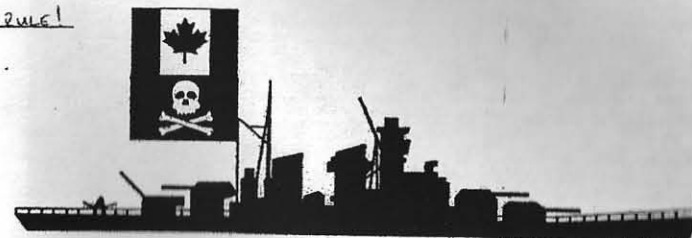
FREQ: 7413 kHz

OTHER: PSYCHO CHICKENS

2UL61

CSIC

QSL # 340



RADIO

1992 TOUR DE FORCE

Covert Corner

by: Chris Smolinski



Welcome to another edition of Covert Corner. This month, we're talking about some mystery CW (morse code) beacons that have been noted on shortwave. While there are many legal ham radio beacons, these beacons are not in the ham bands, and their output powers are in excess of what the FCC allows for unlicensed operation. So they're fair game for this column!

These are the beacons that I have reports of:

- The first is a cluster of five beacons, operating around 4096 kHz, typically running 150 mW each:

4095.55 Sends "W" 24 hrs, reported in OR, CO, TN
4095.7 Long dashes, reported in CA.
4096 Sends "I" in CW, reported in Colorado
4096.09 4 second dash (QRT?)
4096.25 Sends long dashes in CW, reported in Colorado.

- These other beacons have also been reported:

6700.4 Sending 62 dashes per minute. QTH presumed to be Colorado/Mojave Desert boundary. (QRT?)

6925 Sending "C" in CW, reported rarely. 6925 of course is one of the major shortwave pirate radio frequencies in the US today.

8000.55 Sends "S" Located in western Arizona. Dipole antenna, 250 mW at mid-day (daytime only, about 1500-0000 UTC).

One individual reports that a group in the Southwest USA has run these beacons for a few years, they are located in remote sites in the desert, and are solar powered, with 12V gel cell batteries for night-time operation for some beacons.

The typical power output is about 100 to 200mW using a CMOS crystal oscillator and a 2N2222 or similar output transistor.

If you've logged any of these beacons, or know anything more about them, feel free to write to me.

- On the legal beacon front, Tom Severt runs his 30m ham beacon N2UHC on 10146 CW, 100 milliwatts, from Frontenac, KS. I've heard his signal here in Maryland, so low power CW can certainly get out when conditions are right. Watch out for nearby PACTOR QRM. Tom sends out a nice QSL for reports, and I'm sure he'd enjoy hearing from any other listeners. His email address is n2uhc@yahoo.com

I've created a webpage with what little information is known about these beacons, as well as reports from others. The URL to use is <http://www.spynumbers.com/USSWbeacon.html>

Be sure to join the Spooks list, to keep up to date on all the latest spy numbers activity. Visit <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/spooks> for details.

Also be sure to visit <http://www.spynumbers.com/>

73, Chris
cps@blackcatsystems.com
Black Cat Systems
<http://www.blackcatsystems.com>



Picture - Confirmed again right next to the Alice & Bob system

the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

PO Box 1, Belfast, New York 14711-0001

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

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